

# **PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**

**Thursday, February 18, 2016**

## **Minutes**

**PRESENT:** Meghan O'Connor, Patrick Morton, Kevin Riley, Lou Valenti, Rachael McGrath, and Eileen Earle.

**ABSENT:** Laura Ferguson, Angelo Franzese and Gary Regan.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Meghan O'Connor called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE, PAYROLL AND INCOME:** The Expenditures Report and the Cash Balance Report were reviewed by all present. The Cash Balance report shows a decrease over this time last year as we are still registering for Spring Programs and will be making another deposit in February. The Expenditures Report shows an increase as funds from the Youth Commission were deposited into our accounts. This is due to the fact that the Parks and Rec. Dept. will now be overseeing the running of the Pro Access Teen Center. On a motion by Lou Valenti and second by Kevin Riley, the Expenditures Report and the Cash Balance Report were accepted and unanimously approved by all members present.

**PROGRAMS:** Spring Registration started February 6<sup>th</sup> and is going well with some programs already full. The number of enrollments will continue to increase as out of town registration started Wed. February 17<sup>th</sup>. Rachael is currently planning the Summer Playground Camp registration info. and fees. New for this summer the Summer Playground Camps will run for 6 individual weeks and parents can choose to register by the week. The new proposed fee would be \$125 per week for preschool and \$175 per week for Junior, Senior and Teen Camp. There would be a \$25 discount for week 2 as there is no camp on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. A Discount of \$25 will apply if registered for 3 or 4 weeks. A Discount of \$50 will apply if registered for 5 or 6 weeks. The weekly fee for parents averages out to \$5.80 per hour for the child to attend camp. Also noted was the increase in the minimum wage for staff to \$9.60 per hour. After some discussion Kevin Riley made a motion, second by Lou Valenti to accept the Weekly/Camp Fee Schedule change as presented. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

The Basketball program is going well, with Travel Basketball ending this weekend and Intown Basketball ending next weekend. The High School Basketball League is going great with a Redding vs. Bethel all star game scheduled for Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm in the Bethel Municipal Center Gym. All proceeds from the game will go to the Mikey's Way Foundation which is dedicated to helping pediatric cancer patients cope....Mikey's Way. This organization brings technology to kids in hospitals to help keep them connected while they are going through treatment.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

- Eileen has been working the last couple of weeks preparing the Parks and Recreation Budget for the presentation tonight to the Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen. She also will be presenting the Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center Locker Room Remodel plans as prepared by Architects' Guide. Also being presented tonight is the plans for an eco friendly Turf Field for Bethel High School.

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**ROAD RACE:** Last year, in honor of our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the John DeMille Annual Firecracker Road Race, we had a 5K and the original 10K race. After some discussion a decision was made go back to having just the 8K race, with the start and finish line on 1 School Street instead of P.T. Barnum Square.

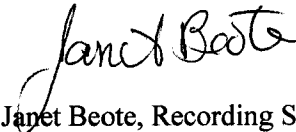
**TEEN CENTER:** Interviews for the new Teen Center Coordinator started this week. The Teen Center Coordinator will assist in developing and implementing all programs offered at the Teen Center, after school and weekends for the 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students enrolled.

Plans are also to have the Teen Center utilized during the day from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. by the High School for their life training programs run by Fran Peters, the Special Education Transition Specialist. Steven Demarco of Demarco Construction will be drawing up plans to best utilize the space for both groups using the Teen Center.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, Pat Morton made a motion which was seconded by Lou Valenti to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

The next Parks and Rec. Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 23, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. in the Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janet Beote". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name of the signatory.

Janet Beote, Recording Secretary